News Release

DeMaio Advances Proposal to Strip City Council of Passes to VIP Boxes at Stadiums

DeMaio-Gloria-Lightner Ask Tickets Be Given to Charities and Volunteers

EMBARGOED UNTIL DEC. 16TH, 2:00PM

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SAN DIEGO –City Councilmember Carl DeMaio joined Councilmembers Todd Gloria and Sherri Lightner today in proposing reforms to the way in which exclusive tickets to the city's VIP boxes at Qualcomm Stadium and Petco Park are administered. Under current practice City Councilmembers are given the tickets for their personal use—though many of the tickets have been passed on to city staff and community volunteers.

That practice has now been called into question by revised regulations from the California Fair Political Practices Commission. "I'm glad the FPPC revised their regulations. City politicians shouldn't be getting these kinds of perks anyways," commented DeMaio

In order to ensure compliance with the new regulation and to maximize the use of these tickets for the greater public good, the three Councilmembers propose that the City Council amend Council Policies 700-22 and 700-47 to define the use of these tickets for the sole "public purpose" of recognizing community volunteers and providing tickets as raffle items for fundraisers for bona fide charities and 501-c3 organizations. No other use—including personal use by City Councilmembers—would be permitted for these tickets under the proposal.

To solicit the input of all Councilmembers and the public on this issue, the three Councilmembers asked that their proposal be referred to the Rules Committee and returned to the City Council prior to the commencement of the baseball season.

Prior to taking office last week, DeMaio had already self-imposed this policy on his own Council Office—pledging to donate his tickets to charities and volunteers. For more information, visit www.CleanUpCityHall.com. To schedule an interview, contact Erica Mendelson at 619-236-7150 (direct) or 619-306-1798 (cell).